MR. G. B. E. TRUSCOTT (*Chief Engineer*): (*a*) No; but there is an embankment and bridge in 145th mile of the M. C. road.

(*b*) This depends upon the floods of each year.

(*c*) No, but ferry boats are engaged.

(*d*) & (*e*) No estimate has been prepared; but a preliminary investigation has been made and the work will be provided for and taken up when funds become available.

MR. K. P. KOCHUKORA THARAKAN : റോഡിൽ വെള്ളം പൊങ്ങിക്കിടക്കുമ്പോൾ വാഹനങ്ങൾക്ക് ഗതാഗതസൗകര്യം ഉണ്ടാകുന്നതെങ്ങിനെ?

MR. G. B. E. TRUSCOTT : There are ferries but we have no *junghar* for the passage of vehicles.

Issue strength of arrack.

3). *MR. K. NARAYANAPERUMAL NADAR (*Tovala* cum *Agastisvaram*): Will the Government be pleased to state :

(*a*) whether the issue strength of arrack was raised from 30 U. P. to 25 U. P. in recent years; and

(*b*) if the answer to part (*a*) is in the affirmative, the reasons for so doing?

MR. M. P. JOSEPH (*Ag. Excise Commissioner*) : (*a*) Yes.

(*b*) To prevent the prevalence of illicit distillation.

MR. K. NARAYANAPERUMAL NADAR : May I know whether the issue strength of arrack was raised in all the taluks or only in some taluks?

MR. M. P. JOSEPH : Not in all taluks; it was raised in all taluks, excepting those bordering the Cochin State and in Shencotta.

MR. K. NARAYANAPERUMAL NADAR : May I know the reason for raising it only in some taluks?

MR. M. P. JOSEPH : I did not hear the question.

MR. K. NARAYANAPERUMAL NADAR . May I know the reason for that?

MR. M. P. JOSEPH : In Cochin the issue strength is 35 U. P. For the taluks bordering Cochin, we have the old issue strength of 35 U. P., as a matter of interstatal courtesy.

MR. K. NARAYANAPERUMAL NADAR : May I know whether the higher strength tended to the increase or decrease in the consumption of arrack in those taluks?

MR. M. P. JOSEPH : It tended to the increase of consumption.

MR. K NARAYANAPERUMAL NADAR : May I know by how many gallons?

MR. M. P. JOSEPH : About 9,000 gallons.

MR. K. NARAYANAPERUMAL NADAR : May I know whether the change was made by Government on their own initiative or on the application of the drunkards?

MR. M. P. JOSEPH : It was not on the application of the drinking population but was on the specific recommendation of the Excise Commissioner.

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MR. K. NARAYANAPERUMAL NADAR: May I know whether it was done with the idea of popularising drink in the State or to minimise it?

MR. M. P. JOSEPH. It was done wtth the idea of dealing with illicit distillation.

Appointments in the Public Health Department.

31. *MR. D. FRANCIS (*Kalkulam* cum *Vilavankod*): Will the Government be pleased to lay on the table a statement by caste showing the appointments made by the Director of Public Health from 1-1-1110 to 1-1-1114 with names, pay and date of appointments?

MR. M. K. GOPALA PILLAI (*Director of Public Health*): A statement furnishing the required information is laid on the table.

Improvements to the Puliyoor-Mannar Road.

32. *MR. PULIYOOR T. P. VELAYUDHAN PILLAI (*Tiruvalla*): Will the Government be pleased to state:

(*a*) whether they have decided the question of improving the Puliyoor-Mannar road;

(*b*) whether they have considered the above question and the question of sanctioning a *junghar* service at the place called Idinayarkadavu (ഇടിനയാർകടവു) on the above road; and

(*c*) the steps hitherto taken by the Government or the Department for improving the above road and sanctioning the *junghar* service?

MR. G. B. E. TRUSCOTT: (*a*) Yes.

(*b*) Yes.

(*c*) Estimate has been prepared, but it is pending sanction for want of funds.

MR. PULIYOOR T. P. VELAYUDHAN PILLAI: With reference to answer to part (c), may I know the amount required for opening the *junghar* service?

MR. G. B. E. TRUSCOTT: About Rs. 7,000.

MR. PULIYOOR T. P. VELAYUDHAN PILLAI: My question is with reference to the opening of the *junghar* service.

MR. G. B. E. TRUSCOTT: I have not the separate items of estimate available with me here.

MR. PULIYOOR T. P. VELAYUDHAN PILLAI: May I know from the Government whether the estimate for the purpose has been submitted to Government?

MR. G. B. E. TRUSCOTT: We do not submit estimate unless there is provision of funds for the same.

MR. PULIYOOR T. P. VELAYUDHAN PILLAI: May I know whether they have considered the financial aspect of the question for the opening of the *junghar* service before they prepared the estimate?

MR. G. B. E. TRUSCOTT: I do not think we have considered a separate provision for a *junghar* as yet.

**Vide* Appendix I, page—

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